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Like a city set on a hill



When Christ in Matthew 5 exhorts his people to shine the light of the Gospel like a city set on a hill, he is calling us to a missional task more far-reaching than what was suggested by the old children's song, "Jesus Bids Us Shine," with its refrain, "...you in your small corner, and I in mine."

Despite its positive intent, this attitude plays into the great lie of our contemporary secular culture that would marginalize religious commitment and regard it as private and having no place in the public square. The biblical vision of Matthew 5 is much more expansive and encompassing. As the British evangelist and scholar, Leslie Newbigin, puts it, the Gospel of Christ is a public Gospel, meant to impact all of creation and culture, and not a private

Christian education cannot be allowed to fall into an isolationist or withdrawal mentality that sees this education as a means of protecting our covenant youth from the evils of this world, sheltering them and shaping them for lives of service that are largely lived out in their families, churches and on an individual level in the jobs they may hold. Jesus' teaching in Matthew 5 will not allow that kind of comfortable and protectionist mentality.

Our schools and particularly our Christian colleges and universities must inspire students with a missional vision that is true to Scripture and articulates the public character of the Gospel. They must serve as a launching pad that prepares students to go into the marketplace, the back alleys and the public square of our culture to challenge the spirits of our age, to dispel the darkness and to bring to bear the light and hope and healing of Jesus Christ.

This is a task that has both individual and communal dimensions, bringing a credible witness wherever we are placed and also working together in our churches, schools and Christian organizations, so that we shine the light of Christ into our communities, cities, provinces and country. Leaders equipped by Christian colleges and universities, who are fanning out across this land and beyond like leaven, salt and light, will add fresh agents of renewal and reconciliation, grace and truth, mercy and justice.

It is my prayer that we at Redeemer, along with other institutions of Christian higher education, may be faithful to the vision of Matthew 5 and serve like a city set on a hill, providing an obedient witness to the comprehensive scope of Christ's renewing power and shining brightly as we engage our culture with the light of the Gospel. ■

“Our Christian colleges and universities must inspire students with a missional vision that is true to Scripture and articulates the public character of the Gospel.”

-Justin D. Cooper

Gospel to be restricted to the lives of individual Christians, Christian churches and families.

Today in our increasingly secular and pluralistic Canadian culture Christian higher education has a particularly important place in raising up a new generation of leaders committed to this biblical vision, inspired by a Christian world view that gives expression to this missional task and equipped with the knowledge and skills to articulate and apply the light of the Gospel across the spectrum of callings and vocations in our society.

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Front Cover: Students in the Art program at Redeemer benefit from working with a range of professional artists in their studio courses.

A note to our readers:

It has come to our attention that some readers have found that the article in the November 2006 issue of *Images* on Eastern Orthodoxy by Dr James Payton had an overly positive and uncritical view of Eastern Orthodoxy, and particularly its use of icons in worship. Having reviewed this matter, we would like to underscore that this was not the intent of the article nor is it the position of Dr Payton. His article concluded by stating that any consideration of changes in worship in Reformed churches would need to be "consonant with our beliefs." Nevertheless, we regret any misunderstanding that has been caused.

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Feature Story

The Redeemer Art Department seeks to instill in students an appreciation for art and prepare them for a lifetime of creative activity. To nurture that creative process, it relies on teacher-mentors to work with students in studio classes, a process that is as important as the final product.

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A Lasting Image

With ice as a medium and the campus as His canvas, the Master Artist paints a masterpiece of iridescent beauty.

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Changes Strengthen & Reflect Commitment to Core Curriculum

Since its inception, one of the distinctives of Redeemer University College has been its emphasis on providing a liberal arts and sciences education, a program that exposes students, no matter what their major, to courses from a variety of disciplines. This aspect of a student's education is done through the completion of a set of required courses known as the Core Curriculum. The Core is more than just a vehicle for "rounding out" a student's education – it is central to the task of providing a Christ-centred education. As Dr. Jacob Ellens, Vice-President (Academic) notes, "The Core Curriculum reflects the key to what we teach, namely that the world in all its complexity must be introduced in our core and that it coheres in Christ – the Word made flesh."

This past fall, the Faculty Council and Senate of Redeemer University College approved a series of revisions to the Core. These changes were made partly in response to student concerns about the number and breadth of courses they are required to take. Faculty and academic administration at Redeemer spent many months examining the entire core. Part of that study included examining how changes in the Ontario Secondary School curriculum over the years have affected the preparation of high school students. "The goal," notes Dr. Ellens, "was to bring in a reform which would be faithful to the liberal arts and science mission of Redeemer while creating a stronger core with less overlap and more options and flexibility."

Perhaps the biggest changes were made in what is called the Foundational Core, which encompasses history, philosophy and theology. All students will now be required to take two courses in each of those disciplines, and courses in these areas have been reworked to eliminate overlaps between each other. "Our belief that the creation is full of meaning is, at bottom, why we continue to insist that every discipline taught at Redeemer must be built on the foundations of history, philosophy, and theology," says Dr. Ellens. "In these foundational disciplines we begin to tell the Christian story that humans are religious beings whose shaping of culture always reflects glimmerings of religious answers to the basic questions of life."

The other major change to the Core is increased flexibility. Waiver criteria have been expanded, and students will have more course options to complete their core requirements. According to Richard Wikkerink, Registrar and Director of Continuing Education, "These changes to the core have reduced the overall number of core requirements a student needs to complete and, more significantly, provided students with a greater variety of options (courses and waivers) to satisfy the requirements."

The revised Core Curriculum requirements will take effect for the 2007-08 academic year. Details on the changes to the Core will be published in the next Academic Calendar, which will be posted on the Registrar's section of Redeemer's website (redeemer.ca/registrar/calendar/index.html) in early April. ■



Redeemer Supports United Way

During Christmas 2006, Redeemer faculty and staff participated for the third year in the United Way Campaign of Burlington and Greater Hamilton. Since the first Employee Campaign in 2004, the Redeemer community has pulled together in response to our neighbours' needs. As a large funder of social services, United Way has a huge impact on our social safety net. Redeemer recognizes the importance of giving back to our community, and giving to the United Way is one of the ways that we can demonstrate that support.

Faculty and staff participation continues to grow. This year, 26% of all Redeemer employees participated, raising a record of \$4,912, an increase of more than 30% from last year. These donations will help many segments of the community, including seniors, families, mentally and physically-challenged individuals, and children. We're glad we "got into it". We did make a difference! ■

Power Outage Results in Evacuation of Campus

One wayward squirrel was enough to create havoc across Redeemer's campus this past fall. Just before noon on November 24, power was knocked out across the entire campus when a squirrel made contact with a high-voltage conductor at the spot where Redeemer connects with the Hydro One power grid. For over nine hours, the academic building, residences and the rest of campus were in the dark while staff and outside contractors worked to correct the problem.

The most immediate concern for Redeemer staff and administration was the safety and well-being of staff, faculty and students. When it became clear that the power would not be restored in short-order, all on-campus students were taken to local hotels for the night. Before they were allowed back in the residences, maintenance staff checked all life safety systems (smoke detectors and CO detectors) to ensure that they were properly functioning. Students returned to campus on Saturday morning.

Beyond the cancellation of classes and moving the students,

the power outage also affected several other activities on campus that day, notably the cancellation of the Mainstage Theatre production that evening. Redeemer's Board of Governors, which was also meeting that day, was forced to find alternative arrangements for its afternoon and evening sessions.

Although the power outage caused significant disruption to campus life, most students seemed to take it all in stride, even viewing it as an adventure, despite the inconvenience. Alfred Mazereeuw, Director, Physical Plant and Security, and the point man for much of the outage, was pleased with the way students and staff – especially Campus Services and Student Life – worked together to ensure everyone's safety and to facilitate repairs. But that doesn't mean there isn't room for improvement – in the weeks that followed, Doreen Van de Ban, Redeemer's Health & Safety Coordinator, led a review of the event to incorporate the valuable lessons learned from this event into Redeemer's emergency response procedures. ■

Visiting Scholars Engage Community

Redeemer University College is fortunate to have academics from a number of different institutions and disciplines speak on campus each year. Through guest lectures, colloquia and special lecture series, these scholars engage the entire campus community and are a welcome complement to the research and learning that is central to Redeemer's mission.

This fall, Redeemer welcomed three scholars who spoke on a variety of different topics:

Dr. Jay Newman, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Guelph, spoke at a public colloquium on religious tolerance in an age of terrorism.

Dr. Jonathan Chaplin, Director of the Kirby Laing Institute

for Christian Ethics at Tyndale House in Cambridge, England, gave this year's Bernard Zylstra Lectures on the topic "Speaking from Faith in Public Life." Dr. Chaplin spoke at a chapel service and presented an address entitled "Why Bother with Democracy." This annual series, named after the founding president of the Institute of Christian Studies in Toronto, is made possible in part by a grant from the John Templeton Foundation.

Dr. Egbert Schuurman, Professor of Reformational Philosophy, University of Wageningen (Netherlands) and member of the Dutch Senate for the Christian Union Party, gave a series of lectures for faculty and the public on the topic of technology and the Christian life. ■



(l-r): Dr. Jonathan Chaplin, Dr. Egbert Schuurman, and Dr. Jay Newman all lectured at Redeemer this fall



Redeemer Foundation Update

The Redeemer Foundation continues to promote the work of Redeemer University College. One of the most obvious ways is through the Foundation's scholarship programs (see p. 15). However, it also is involved in a number of other stewardship and management activities that benefit the entire university.



Thanks for 30 years.

At the Redeemer Foundation's Annual General Meeting this past December, Mr. Bert Bakker, QC, was recognized for his 30 years of service to Redeemer University College and the Redeemer Foundation. Longtime counsel for Redeemer, Mr. Bakker was part of the original board of the Ontario Christian College Association, has served on the Board of Governors many times and, most recently, has been active in the Redeemer Foundation. Mr. Bakker's family, which includes three children who graduated from Redeemer, joined him for the event. Here, President Cooper presents Mr. Bakker with a plaque acknowledging his many contributions to Christian university education in Ontario. ■

One court case to be pursued...

After prayerful consideration and careful consultation with its legal advisors and others, the Board of Directors of the Redeemer Foundation has decided to apply to the Supreme Court of Canada for leave to appeal the recent Court of Appeal judgment favouring the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) (see the Fall 2006 issue of *Images* <http://www2.redeemer.ca/back-issues/2006-Fall-Images.pdf>).

There is strong sentiment in the legal community that the judgment has created a major issue that must be challenged in the Supreme Court of Canada. Indeed, several law firms have already come forward to provide financial support for the leave application.

The Supreme Court will only agree to hear appeals on issues that have national significance. It will be several months before it is known if leave to hear the appeal will be granted. ■

Save the Date!

The Redeemer Foundation's Second Annual Golf Tournament will be held on July 25. Visit golf.redeemer.ca for more information.

... while CRA drops its latest review

In November 2006, the Foundation was notified that CRA Hamilton was initiating an audit of the 2003 and 2004 donors of the Forgivable Loan Program (FLP). This was a follow-up audit to the one that CRA took of 2001 and 2002 donors to the FLP, which resulted in the court action mentioned above.

Recently, the Foundation received notice from the CRA that it had decided not to contest the charitable donation tax credits claimed by our donors for those years. This decision means that no further action will be taken by CRA with respect to these 2003 and 2004 cases.

"This is certainly a major praise item," notes Bill van Staalduinen, Executive Director of the Redeemer Foundation. "In addition to being good news for our 2003 and 2004 donors, it also strengthens our case in defence of the FLP as a whole and reopens the possibility of re-instating the program in future years should we decide to do so once the court case relating to the 2001 and 2002 program has been concluded. I would ask you to continue to pray for a just outcome." ■



Plantinga Preaches to a Pack of Pastors

More than 100 pastors from across southern Ontario braved the wind and cold to hear Dr. Neil Plantinga speak at Redeemer's annual Ministers' Conference. Dr. Plantinga, President and Charles W. Colson Professor of Theology at Calvin Theological Seminary, spoke on the theme "What I'm Still Learning after Thirty-Five Years of Preaching: Thoughts on the Preacher's Calling, Craft, and Consolation." In his two presentations, Dr. Plantinga talked about the centre of the preacher's vocation, about ways of answering it faithfully and skillfully, and about the preacher's refuge in God our Savior. Along the way, he drew out treasures of wisdom from particular Scripture texts.

Now in its 20th year, the Ministers' Conference is an opportunity for the university to encourage and support the pastors and other leaders of supporting and area churches by providing a day of fellowship, worship, and spiritual and intellectual stimulation. The conference has featured a diverse group of speakers over the years, and the planning committee continues to seek ministry leaders that will appeal to a wide range of church leaders. ■

Former Prof to Return to the Land of Milk & Honey

Psalms of Lament and Psalms of Rejoicing is the theme of this year's Milk & Honey Festival. Redeemer's annual "vacation with a difference" will take place May 28 to June 1, with featured speakers Dr. Bert Polman, Professor of Music at Calvin College, and Prof. Raymond Louter, Associate Professor of Theatre Arts and Communications at Redeemer.

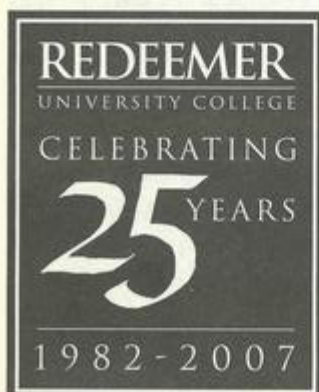
For more information on how to register, please contact Ms. Darlene Komadan, Conference and Special Events Coordinator, by phone: 905.648.2139, ext. 4521, or email: dkomada@redeemer.ca ■

Prepare to Celebrate Redeemer's 25th!

It was in September 1982 that Redeemer opened its doors to students for the first time. This year, Redeemer is planning to mark the 25th Anniversary of that occasion with a series of events that will not only celebrate God's faithfulness to us thus far, but will also look forward with anticipation to see what He has planned for the future.

A committee has been at work planning various anniversary activities, and those plans will be announced in greater detail in the June issue of *Images*. However, we invite all alumni and supporters to set aside **Saturday, September 29**, when we plan, DV, to celebrate as an entire community.

We look forward to having you celebrate with us! ■



The Meaning of Membership

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Standing True

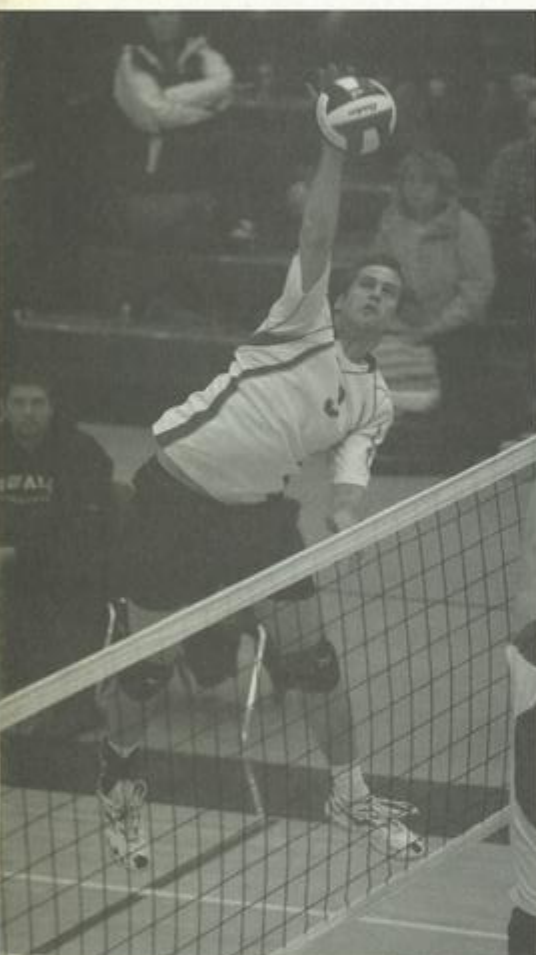


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www.redeemer.ca/membership



Fantastic Year for Royals Volleyball

Men and Women's teams qualify for Provincial Championships



Dave Berghout, from Ottawa, ON, was the OCAA West's scoring leader this year. He was also selected as a First Team All-Star for the third straight year.

This year has been one of incredible experiences for both of Redeemer's varsity volleyball teams. With a number of key first-year players joining experienced teams, head coaches Chris Wiersma (women's team) and Nathan Siebenga (men's team) began the year hoping to earn a berth, and

perhaps medal, in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) Provincial Championships.

The women's team finished with a record of 10-5, good for a second place finish in the OCAA West Division. The Lady Royals advanced to the Provincials by defeating Barrie's Georgian College in a five-set thriller, taking the fifth game 15-13.

Despite their success this year, no member of the women's team received any individual awards, which is a testament to the overall team strength. However, in November, Charis Byl was honoured when she became the OCAA All-time Aces leader.

The men played the entire season as a provincially-ranked team, climbing as high as third. In late November, the team became the first varsity squad in Redeemer's history to hold a national ranking, climbing to number 13 in the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association and holding that place until the end of January. However, losing a couple key games at the end of the season left them in third place in their very competitive division and needing to win their own cross-over match. In another thrilling five-set match, the men defeated the Lords of Durham College to advance to the Provincial competition.

The men's team became one of the most decorated teams in recent memory with a full list of award winners. Dave Berghout won the division scoring race and was named to a third consecutive First Team All-Star team. Brad Douwes and Ryan Talsma, the Western

Conference's Rookie of the Year, were named to the Second Team All-Star team. Rounding out the awards was head coach Nathan Siebenga, who was named Coach of the Year.

The OCAA Provincial Championships were exceptional this year. The women's team had a tough draw, losing their first match to #1 ranked Nipissing University, who would go on to win the Gold Medal. The women also lost to the fourth ranked Mohawk Mountaineers, who would themselves go on to win the Bronze Medal.

The men entered the tournament ranked fifth, setting up their sixth match of the year with Fanshawe College. After winning the first set, the men were beaten in the following three, eliminating them from contention for the Gold and Silver medals. Although they would defeat Niagara College, the Royals fell short in their attempt to qualify for the Bronze Medal when they lost a five-set heartbreaker to their old nemesis, the Falcons of Fanshawe. Congratulations to both teams, as well to our coaches Chris Wiersma, Nathan Siebenga and Ken Mercer for a great year. The teams and the Athletic Department would like to thank everyone for their support of the teams throughout the year, especially the student body for making our home games so loud and fun. We also thank our Lord for this past year. God has given these student-athletes a lot of talent and we hope that throughout the wins and losses He received our worship and all the glory! ■

Coming Events

All events are held on Redeemer's campus at 777 Garner Rd. East, Ancaster unless otherwise noted. For tickets or more information, please call the Box Office at 905.648.2139 x4211, or visit www.ticketwindow.ca to purchase tickets on-line.

Mar

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Cross and Calling Lecture Series

Redeemer welcomes Dr. James K.A. Smith, Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy at Calvin College and Director of the Seminars in Christian Scholarship Program at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI. Dr. Smith will be speaking on the topic of "Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Learning and the Formation of Radical Disciples." These public lectures will be at 11:00 am and at 4:00 pm.

Mar

→

Mar

27

31

Antigone

Antigone, by Sophocles, is this spring's Mainstage performance. Directed by Raymond Louter, this classical tragedy pits a young woman against a cold-hearted ruler. A preview performance will take place on Tuesday, March 27, 7:30 pm, and there is a matinee performance on Wednesday, March 28, at 12 noon. The three evening performances will be March 29, 30, 31 at 7:30 pm.

Tickets are \$12, \$10 for student/senior. Preview and matinee performances are \$6. The Dinner & Theatre package is \$25.

Apr

2

Spring Concert

Dr. Christiaan Teeuwssen and Dr. Paul Thorlakson will be conducting the Spring Concert at 8:00 pm. The performance will include both the Concert Choir and the Sinfonia Orchestra. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for students/senior.

Apr

3

Jars of Clay

As part of their Good Monsters Spring Tour '07, Jars of Clay will be performing at Redeemer at 7:30 pm, accompanied by special guests Need to Breathe. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. For more information visit: www.UniteProductions.com.

Apr

11

Closing Convocation

Friends and supporter are invited to join Redeemer in officially closing the 2006-07 academic year at Closing Convocation. The guest speaker, as chosen by the graduating class, will be Prof. Hugh Cook, Emeritus Professor of English. 11:00 am in the Auditorium.

Apr

13

Choir Concert

Dr. Christiaan Teeuwssen will be conducting the Concert Choir, Alumni Choir and Baroque Orchestra in a program featuring Buxtehude's *Abendmusik* at 8:00 pm at MacNab Presbyterian Church, 116 MacNab Street South, Hamilton. Tickets are \$20 or \$18 for student/senior.

Apr

21

Dr. Paul Thorlakson Recital

Friends, students and faculty are invited to hear a recital by Dr. Paul Thorlakson featuring Brahms's "Handel Variations" and other works for solo piano. 8:00 pm in the Auditorium. Tickets are \$10, \$8 student/senior.

May

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2007 Commencement

Celebrate the Class of 2007 at Redeemer's 23rd Commencement ceremony. The featured speaker will be Dr. Shirley Roels, Professor of Management at Calvin College. A very limited number of tickets are available. Please contact the Registrar's Office for more information at 905.648.2139 ext. 4449.

Please visit the *What's Happening* section of our website www.redeemer.ca for more information. Many other events, such as faculty colloquia, student exhibitions, recitals performances, chapel and lectures, are open to the public.

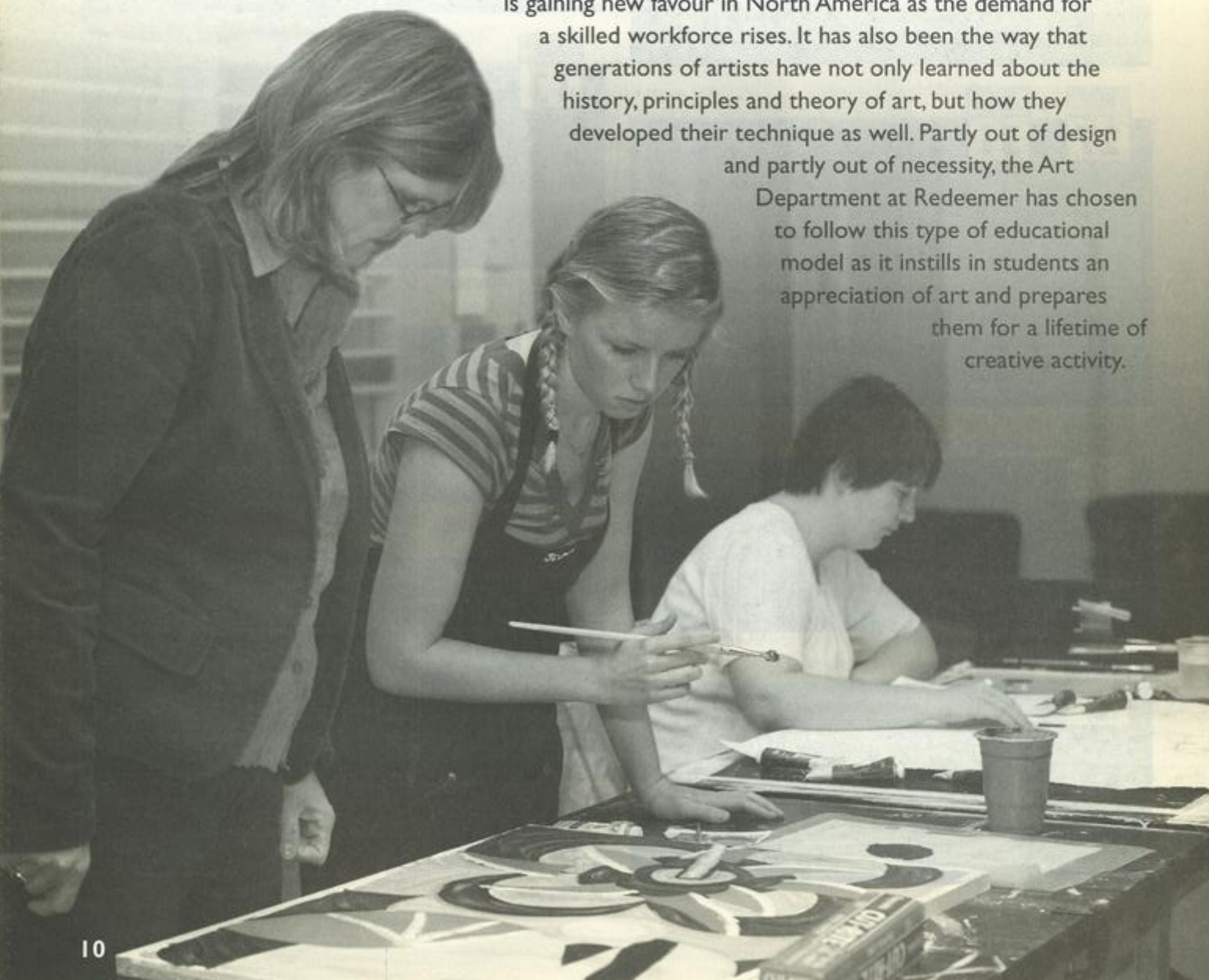
Nurturing Creativity

Relationships developed through a mentor-apprentice experience give Redeemer art students room to explore and grow

Before Donald Trump and his greedy bunch of cut-throat wannabes came around, apprentices were seen as eager but untrained novices working at the side of a skilled master. In this model, learning was largely a hands-on, collaborative affair, with the trainee developing competency in a craft by carefully studying alongside, and working with, the experienced tradesman. It is a centuries-old practice that

is gaining new favour in North America as the demand for a skilled workforce rises. It has also been the way that generations of artists have not only learned about the history, principles and theory of art, but how they developed their technique as well. Partly out of design

and partly out of necessity, the Art Department at Redeemer has chosen to follow this type of educational model as it instills in students an appreciation of art and prepares them for a lifetime of creative activity.



As Head of the Department, and its only full-time faculty member, Chris Cuthill '96 oversees a program that has seen a steady increase of majors over the last few years. "Like music and theatre, there is both a theoretical and a practical aspect to the study of art," notes Cuthill. "Our challenge is to offer a curriculum that addresses the foundational issues that are central to all modes of art, and yet challenges students to explore and be creative in their chosen medium."

An art historian and theorist, Cuthill provides much of the historical and philosophical grounding for the program. He teaches art appreciation, art history and courses which explore the relationship between art/aesthetics and faith. Whether a student takes art as an elective or as part of his or her major, Cuthill believes that these courses are essential, giving students the skills to recognize connections with their own cultural values and beliefs, and providing them with a sense of continuity and connection to a common heritage. "The practice of art," Cuthill states, "does not occur in a historical vacuum. The study of art builds on prior knowledge. Students expand their own verbal and visual language as they study about artists and their works, world cultures, political issues, social values and worldview."

The studio classes – where students actually "do" their art – are taught by a series of part-time instructors who come to Redeemer with specializations in a variety of different media. With these classes capped at 14, students work closely with the artist-instructors to develop their ideas and improve their technique. The development of relationships within the classroom, both with fellow students and the instructor, is considered essential to this process. "We view the making of art as a collaborative process," says Cuthill. "We try to create

(left) Art Instructor Petra Zantingh offers insights to Jelma Gorter on a project in Zantingh's Introductory Painting class. Studio classes like this involve frequent interaction between students and instructor. (below): Department Chair Chris Cuthill leads a discussion on theory and aesthetics in his Art History class.



Part-Time Instructors:

Students are richly served by the capabilities of the Art Department's part-time faculty, all of whom have careers in art outside the classroom. Redeemer is blessed to have them among us.

Advance painting is taught by **Bruno Capolongo**, an internationally renowned artist, and recipient of numerous awards and honours, including the internationally coveted Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation grant three times.

Maria Gabankova, who also teaches graduate courses at Norwich University in Vermont and at the Ontario College of Art and Design, teaches painting classes. Maria has seen her work exhibited across Canada and around the world.

James Tughan, a master draftsman and cartographic realist with extensive experience as an illustrator, teaches all drawing courses. James is also an art consultant and the artist of the *Dreaming of Lions* series, a semi-permanent installation at Redeemer.

Besides working on private and corporate commissions, and developing new work for exhibitions, **Nathan Turner** teaches drawing at Redeemer. Among his many awards are two Best Drawing Awards from the Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition and the Leading Edge Award for outstanding achievement in the arts in Kitchener-Waterloo.

Design, media studies, computer art and introductory painting courses are taught by **Petra Zantingh**, a visual and graphic artist with a long history as a professional designer and art director. Her work has been shown in Canada and the US.

a space that promotes constructive encouragement; critiques, by the instructor and their peers, help students to define their intentions as well as listening to what others see in their work."

Many art students value and appreciate this level of contact with their instructors. Jimmy Bender is a third-year art major from Durham, ON who

favours sketching with graphite or chalk. He has worked closely with drawing instructor James Tughan, whom he calls "an amazing talent, with an unbounded imagination." Bender credits the relationship with developing his creative ability. "I don't think that creativity can be taught

as much as it needs to be nurtured," he points out. "The fact that Prof. Tughan takes the time to connect, to ask questions and to offer encouragement, has given me the freedom, and challenged me to develop my ideas and my technique."

That's not to say that the art faculty, including the studio

instructors, are going to hold a student's hand through their courses. "You have to be a self motivated student and a proactive learner to get the most out of this experience," notes Adrienne James, a fourth-year art major from Hamilton, ON. Petra Zantingh, who has taught a number of art courses over

the last few years, agrees.

"Students need to learn that art takes dedication, commitment and the will to keep doing it." That drive and commitment to one's craft is lived out by many of the instructors, who, because they teach only part-time, must pursue their own career in art outside the classroom.

The development of

relationships within the classroom is considered essential because lectures and demonstrations by an instructor can only go so far. "We encourage risk taking, problem solving and the pursuit of an individual visual voice in creating art," says Zantingh, "and that is best done in studio classes where there

" I don't think that creativity can be taught as much as it needs to be nurtured... the fact that Prof. Tughan takes the time to connect, to ask questions and to offer encouragement, has given me the freedom, and challenged me to develop my ideas and my technique. "

Jimmy Bender 3rd-year art major

Is it Christian? Is it Art? Conference examines "Christian kitsch"

Kitsch has become the bread and butter of our culture. Defined by Dr. Cal Seerveld of the Institute of Christian Studies (ICS) as "something fake to which are you fervently attached," kitsch permeates the film world, the commercial advertising industry, politics, talk shows and other cultural expressions. It has also taken root in religious and specifically Christian marketing initiatives, such as the Jesus Bobble-Head doll and a host of similar "gadgets for God."

Last fall, Redeemer art students and faculty took a closer look at the problem of kitsch when they attended a symposium that featured former Redeemer Art professor Betty Spackman. The keynote lecture, entitled "Fantasy and Other Real Things: Exploring the Role of Religious Kitsch in Popular Culture," was based on Spackman's recently published book *A Profound Weakness: Christians and Kitsch*.

Part of the event was a panel discussion led by ICS Professor of Aesthetics, Dr. Calvin Seerveld (author of *Rainbows for the Fallen World*), Dr. Mary Leigh Morbey, Professor of Art at York University (and herself a former Redeemer faculty

member), Dr. Adrienne Chaplin of the ICS, Spackman, now Associate Professor of Art at Trinity Western University in Langley, BC, and Prof. Chris Cuthill, the Head of the Art Department at Redeemer.

The two-day conference was sponsored by the ICS, in collaboration with IMAGO and Art Talks. It was a rewarding experience for Redeemer students, not just because they were able to hear such a scholarly presentation from Christian academics who are passionate about the relationship between faith and art, but also because they were able to mingle with other art students, including many Christians, from other universities in Ontario. Although the dialogue resulted in more questions than answers, the participants were challenged by the issues raised, especially by the important role of honesty and sincerity in one's art.

Copies of Spackman's *A Profound Weakness* are available in the Redeemer University College Bookstore. ■

Written by Annie Ling, a fourth-year art major from Coquitlam, BC

is a collaborative atmosphere that builds confidence and creates a pattern of successes for the student."

Although there is much to be said for this apprenticeship model, there are challenges in operating a program that relies on outside instructors. Despite the relationships that develop in the studio classes, students do not have the advantage of permanency in the department, and in some years it can be difficult to secure the necessary instructors for each medium. There are also many institutional and administrative jobs, such as gallery curation and student advising that can be completed only by Cuthill. With the number of students in the department increasing, so do these tasks, making it difficult for him to balance his administrative responsibilities with his teaching and research.

Still, it remains a very good fit for the department, especially since the apprenticeship format supports and encourages an expression of the Christian worldview to art that is integral to the program. "In both the theoretical and practical courses, I am challenged by the instructors to see, and to work out, the spiritual component of my art," notes Bender. "My beliefs not only form my art, they *are* my art. And my art is one way that I can bring glory to God." As a mentor, the relationships that Zantingh has with students give her the chance to help them "develop and perfect their craft, to strive for excellence, and to deliver a message through their art in an authentic and honest way; that is how art, especially Christian art, is produced."

That is a wonderful task and an extraordinary responsibility. And it is much more significant than just having the power to decide between "You're hired," and "You're fired." ■



As part of the curriculum students in the art program visit various galleries and exhibits across southern Ontario and beyond. Each Reading Week, art students descend on New York City for an intensive five days of gallery-hopping. This year's class took the opportunity to visit Times Square one evening.



Award-winning painter Bruno Capolongo works with Sarah Slootegraaf.



Beyond painting and drawing, Redeemer students are also introduced to other art forms such as sculpture. The Department is looking forward to introducing print-making to the curriculum, using a print-making operation that was recently donated to the university.

Future Plans

As the Department looks towards the future, it is committed to maintaining and developing its current model by introducing more studio offerings, especially in different media. Although it remains, at present, a department with one full-time faculty member, Cuthill has some ambitious designs for the future of the art program at Redeemer. Some of the plans include:

- The development of a summer Children's Art Program that would create opportunities for Redeemer students hoping to become art educators, and create increased visibility for the program within the community;
- Looking at ways to better equip students for work in their field when they leave Redeemer, such as through an Art Business course or a co-op program;
- Supporting the church through the creation of a program that examines the link between Art and Worship;
- Establishing a permanent gallery space in downtown Hamilton where students could show their projects to a wider audience, and which would create an important visible presence for Redeemer in the city.

RECOGNIZING Student Gifts and Donor Generosity

Redeemer remains committed to making Christian university education as affordable as possible. Through the *Growing with Integrity* – *Supporting our Students* Campaign, tuition and housing fees for this academic year were frozen, and many financial aid programs were enhanced.

Students can access a diverse program of financial aid, some of which is funded by the institution, some through government programs and some, increasingly, by outside individuals and companies that wish to support students in their work at Redeemer. In 2006-07, Redeemer students received over \$6.2 million of assistance through awards, government loan programs, on-campus employment and institutional financial aid programs, up from \$4.6 million in 2005-06.

We are grateful to the many donors who have demonstrated their support to Redeemer and its students by funding **bursaries**, which are designed to assist students who have financial need, or **scholarships**, which recognize academic merit or excellence in a particular field. We also celebrate with our students the talents that God has given them, and are pleased that those abilities can be recognized in this way.

Funding awards like these is a wonderful opportunity to impact students directly and to recognize their gifts. If you would like information on setting up an award or scholarship, please contact Ben Stegeman, Stewardship Director, at 905.648.2131, ext. 4205 or bstegem@redeemer.on.ca.

Scholarships for the Academic Year 2006-2007

Alumni Leadership Award
Brittany Goheen, Ancaster

Department of Art Scholarship
(Women's Art Association
of Hamilton)
Jennifer Nanninga, Hamilton

Willemina Blom Scholarship
Chelsea Wagner, Albion, NY

Brownlow & Associates,
Chartered Accountants,
Accounting Scholarship
Roman Golovchenko, Ukraine

Cheryl S. Buiter Scholarship
for Women's Leadership
Sarah Slotegraaf, Listowel

Christian Stewardship Services
Scholarship - Natural Sciences
and Mathematics
Jocelyn Martens, Port Rowan

Christian Stewardship Services
Scholarship - Social Sciences
Robyn De Groot, Lethbridge, AB

Christian Stewardship Services
Scholarship - Foundations
Andrew Luchies, Ancaster

Christian Stewardship Services
Scholarship - Literature and
Fine Arts
Danielle Weesjes, Aylmer

Computer Science Dept.
Scholarship
(NetAccess Systems Inc)
Brian Salemink, Dunnville

Anne de Boer Leadership Award
James Bender, Durham

H.R. DeBolster Scholarship
Steven Dykstra, Russell

Wm. De Jong Enterprises Inc.
Business Scholarship
Kathryn Koornneef, Stoney Creek

Department of Business
Entrepreneurship Scholarship
(Ron Foxcroft)

Jonathan van der Heiden, Caledonia

Department of Business
Leadership Scholarship
(DUCA Financial)
Nathaniel Vandendool, Woodstock

English Dept Scholarship - 3rd
year (Mountaineer Movers)
Teresa DeVries, Harriston

English Dept Scholarship - 4th
year (Mountaineer Movers)
Seth Veenstra, North York

Great-West Life,
London Life, Canada Life
Business Scholarship
Robyn Hogan, Smith's Falls

Grin's Scholarship
Nana Heimbecker, Hamilton

Hamilton Spectator Writing
Excellence Award
Karen VanderDeen, Strathroy

George Herbert
Memorial Scholarship
Brittany Goheen, Ancaster

History Dept Scholarship
(Mountaineer Movers)
Michelle DeBoer, Caledonia

Steven J. Kouwenhoven
French Scholarship
Kathleen Noorloos, Wyoming

Steven J. Kouwenhoven
Physical Education Scholarship
Rachel Rauwerda, Chatham

Steven J. Kouwenhoven
Natural Science and
Mathematics Scholarship
Loretta Vanderspek, Norwich

Luctor et Emergo Scholarship
Josiah Bokma, Shubenacadie, NS

Luctor et Emergo Scholarship
Aaron Verhoef, Pella, IA

David Maines Christian
Communications Scholarship
David Groen, Troy

Nellie Miller Scholarship
Megan Knibbe, Edmonton, AB

Parkview Customs Brokerage
Business Entrance Scholarship
Christine Noorloos, Wyoming

Redeemer University College
Environmental Stewardship
Scholarship
Daniel Brinkman, Chatham

Redeemer University College
Natural Science and
Mathematics Scholarship
Ashley Clingen, Sault Ste. Marie
Timothy Ubbens, Etobicoke

Redeemer University College
Psychology Scholarship
Rachel Lammers, Kitchener

Redeemer University College
Sociology/Social Work Scholarship
Candice Turner, Brantford

Case Schouten Scholarship
in Sociology/Social Work
Jaimi Wiarda, Belleville

Thesaurus tou Theou
(Treasures of God) Scholarship
Craig Vanderveen, Carman, MB

VanDuyvendyk Scholarship
Megan Knibbe, Edmonton, AB

Cor Van Dyk History Scholarship
Amanda Scarlett, Hamilton

Dina VanHerwerden
Memorial Award
Kathleen Noorloos, Wyoming

J.J. van Herwerden Award
Paul Dekker, Grimsby

Westbrook Group Scholarship
Caleb Smid, Canfield

Edward N. Zwart Music
Scholarship
Rachel Mosterd, Stratford

Bursaries for the Academic Year 2006-07

- A & T Minerals Inc. Bursary
- Bosch Rexroth Canada Bursary
- Brownlow & Associates, Chartered Accountants, Bursary
- Christian University Bursary (60)
- Computer Science Bursary for Incoming Students (AGFA Healthcare)
- Department of Business Sales and Marketing Bursary (Atlantic Packaging Products Ltd)
- deWaard Family Endowment Bursary (2)
- Dragt Memorial Bursary (5)
- Henry and Jane Feenstra Psychology Bursary
- History Department Bursary (Sweet Paradise Bakery)
- Steven J. Kouwenhoven Bursary
- Steven J. Kouwenhoven Mature Student Bursary
- Lakewood Bursary
- Mephibosheth Bursary (5)
- Sam Miedema Memorial Bursary (2)
- Milk and Honey Bursary
- Mustard Seed Bursary (5)
- Ontario Christian School Administrators Association (OCSAA) Bursary
- Marco Oussoren Bursary (3)
- Oussoren Music Bursary
- Prins Family Bursary
- G. Renkema Memorial Bursary
- Redeemer University College Bursary for Non-Ontario Students (14)
- Case Schouten Bursary in Physical Education
- Paulus E. Tameling Bursary
- Clarence & Joyce Tigchelaar Memorial Bursary
- Art Vanderstelt Memorial Bursary
- Vision Nursing/Rest Home Bursary (2)
- Harry and Anne Voortman Award (5)
- Voortman Cookies Bursary (5)
- Harry and Anne Voortman Missions Bursary (5)

Other External Scholarships

Canada Millennium Excellence Award Scholarship - In course
Melissa Verroen, Sarnia

Alexander Rutherford Scholarship - Alberta
Melissa Veldman, Lethbridge AB

Race Relations Multiracial Student Scholarship
David Tum, Kenya



At Redeemer's 6th Annual Business Open House on November 23, Rick Giuliana of Great-West Life presented fourth-year Business major Robyn Hogan with the Great-West Life, London Life, Canada Life Business Scholarship.

Thirty students were also awarded Queen Elizabeth II Aiming for the Top Scholarships this year. These awards, presented by the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities of Ontario, recognize students who have shown academic excellence at the high school level and assist students with financial need.

Redeemer Academic Scholarships

In addition to those awards, which are funded either directly by donors or through endowments originally created through donations, Redeemer University College also provides merit-based scholarships. In this academic year, Redeemer offered academic scholarships to 57% of the incoming class and 176 returning students.

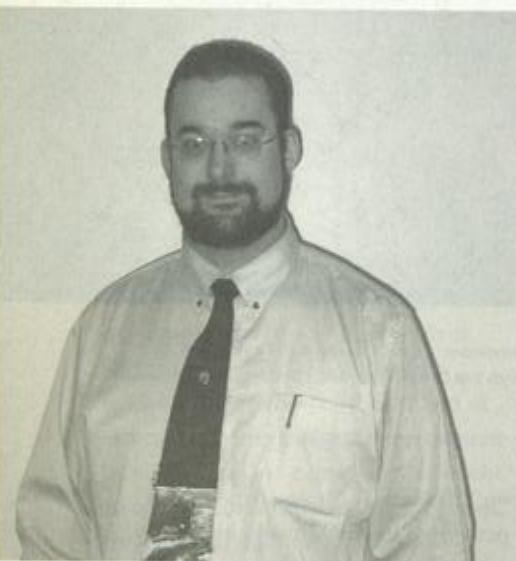
As part of the *Supporting our Students* Campaign, the value of these scholarships was dramatically increased, from \$360 000 in 2005-06 to \$704 000 this year.

Redeemer Foundation Awards

The Redeemer Foundation's Scholarship Program awards students for their gifts in Leadership and Academic Achievement. In 2006-07, the Foundation awarded 50 students more than \$110 000 in awards that recognize their gifts in leadership or academics. ■

There's Something Funny Going On...

So this duck walks into a convenience store and asks the clerk, "Do you have any duck food?" The clerk says no, and the duck leaves. The next day, the duck returns and asks, "Do you have any duck food?" The clerk again says no, and the duck leaves. The day after that, the duck walks in the store again and asks "Do you have any duck food?" The clerk screams at the duck, "I swear if you come back in here again and ask for duck food, I'll nail your webbed feet to the floor!!" The duck leaves and returns the next day. This time he asks, "Do you have any nails?" The clerk replies, "No," and the duck says, "Good! Got any duck food?"



On the surface, Dr. Charles Hackney's research is laughable

Does that make you laugh? If yes, what's so funny about it? Over the past three months, more than 75 students have read jokes like this one to participate in a research project on humour conducted by Dr. Charles Hackney, Assistant Professor of Psychology.

The research is straightforward and fun: participants write a paragraph about their feelings about a final exam, *or* by describing what happens to the body after death. Then they read three jokes—satire, slapstick humour and puns—and rate how funny the jokes are.

Ironically, Hackney is using humour to shed light on Terror Management Theory, which hypothesizes that everything we do is motivated by the

fear of death. For example, many people have Gallows Humour—they "laugh in the face of death" because it lessens their natural fears. If the theory works, then those students whose first essays were about death should find jokes about human mortality funnier than those who wrote about final exams.

The duck joke is neutral, a control for all students, and should end up with approximately the same ratings. Over the fall and early winter semesters, Hackney has examined dozens of such joke-ratings. While the final results are still in progress, his findings do appear to connect people's natural fear of death with their sense of humour. ■

Written by Elizabeth O'Brien, a fourth-year English major from Combermere, ON

Redeemer Faculty Updates

After taking a medical leave of absence, we are most grateful that **Dr. Craig Bartholomew**, H. Evan Runner Chair in Philosophy, has been able to return to his work among us in January.

Congratulations to **Prof. Rob Harvey**, who has been granted tenure and been promoted by the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, to the rank of Associate Professor of Business.

Congratulations to **Dr. Steve Sider**, Assistant Professor of Education and Director of Teacher Education, on earning his doctorate this past fall from

The University of Western Ontario. Dr. Sider's thesis was entitled "Experiences with Language Retention: Case Studies of Mennonites from Mexico." His research examined the educational and linguistic experiences of Mennonite children who spoke Low German as their first language before entering public school systems in southern Ontario.

One of the original faculty members, **Dr. Wytse (Vince) van Dijk** will be retiring this spring as Professor of Mathematics and Physics. Dr. van Dijk hopes to continue with his research in

nuclear physics at McMaster University while taking a lighter teaching load at Redeemer.

Dr. Johanna Kuyvenhoven, Associate Professor of Education, will be leaving Redeemer at the end of the semester to take up a position at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI. This fall, we said farewell to **Dr. Norman Fennema**, Assistant Professor of History, who left Redeemer to return to Western Canada. We wish Drs. Fennema and Kuyvenhoven God's blessings as they take up their new tasks. ■

Music Department Adds Sinfonia to Its Repertoire

One of the goals that Redeemer had when Dr. Paul Thorlakson was hired this past year was to expand the reach and scope of the Music Department, both to music majors and to those students who have an interest in performing. Out of that mandate has risen the Sinfonia, a chamber orchestra of student and community musicians that had its inaugural performance this February.



The Sinfonia is under the direction of Dr. Paul Thorlakson, who is also an accomplished pianist.

The use of community members has been as intentional as it has been necessary. Of its 35 members, *Sinfonia* includes several professional players who assist Dr. Thorlakson by leading sectional rehearsals, and mentoring student musicians through rehearsals and performances. "Without these 'coaches,' we wouldn't have come as far as we already have," he says. "Their involvement also broadens the awareness of our department with the music community in and around Hamilton."

The Sinfonia's inaugural concert was held this past February, with a repertoire that featured works by Mozart, Vivaldi, Bach and others. They are next scheduled to perform, with the Concert Choir, at Redeemer's annual Spring Concert, on April 2 in the Auditorium. ■

Thorlakson, Associate Professor of Music, has three goals for the Sinfonia: to attract students, to interface with the community, and to grow the Music Department. "Prior to this, we had nothing to offer students who wanted the opportunity to develop their musical skills as instrumentalists," notes Thorlakson.

"...In the presence of a great artist"

Renown pianist joins Redeemer as Artist-in-Residence

By any measure, Valerie Tryon is a world-class pianist: she had broadcast for the BBC before she was twelve, was one of the youngest students ever to be admitted to the Royal Academy of Music in England, has played in most of the major concert halls and appeared with many of the leading orchestras and conductors in Europe and North America, and she has performed on a host of award-winning recordings. Redeemer University College is indeed blessed that she has joined the Music Department as a part-time Adjunct faculty member and as Artist-in-Residence.

Ms. Tryon, who holds a similar position at McMaster University, teaches piano to a select number of upper-level students. Her involvement at Redeemer is due largely to Dr. Christiaan Teeuwsen, Chair of the Music Department. "Chris and I

live around the corner from each other, and we bump into each other at the grocery store and the like," she says. "I was starting to scale back my commitment at McMaster when he asked if I would be interested in working at Redeemer."

Working at Redeemer has been a joy for Ms. Tryon. "This has been a good fit for me," she says. "The atmosphere here is so wonderful; my spirits just rise when I walk in the door."

Dr. Teeuwsen is ecstatic about her involvement with the program. "Our students are incredibly fortunate to have a pianist of Valerie's calibre as an instructor," he notes. "She also brings a fair measure of respect to our program." For example, she has met with high school students who are interested in studying music, listening to their playing and offering advice. "For students who



Artist-in-Residence Ms. Valerie Tryon is a celebrated performer of Romantic repertoire

are considering Redeemer, having the chance to play with someone of her ability is a wonderful opportunity."

In describing the experience of being at one of her recitals, the *Gazette de Lausanne* (Switzerland) said "One finds oneself in the presence of a great artist." Redeemer is thankful to have this great artist grace its presence. ■

Shoveling Manure

...and other duties of a Campus Chaplain



Although he professes to be a gardener, Dr. Syd Hielema is actually Redeemer's Chaplain and Associate Professor of Religion and Theology.

Eight months ago I began work as Redeemer's first fulltime chaplain. After teaching theology for 10 years at Dordt College in Iowa, this was a significant career change for me, and I wasn't exactly sure what would be in store. Redeemer existed for 23 years without a fulltime chaplain, so it was also a significant change for the institution. After eight months on the job, I've concluded that my primary responsibility on campus is to faithfully shovel manure.

The metaphor is derived from Jesus' parable of the sower (better named "the parable of the soils"). The sower's seed falls on four kinds of soil: the path, the rocky soil, the thorny soil, and the fertile soil (see Mark 4). Seeds in the first three locations fare poorly; those in the fertile soil bear rich fruit.

These four types of soil are present in all Christian

communities, including Redeemer. My calling is to expand the areas of fertile soil in any way that I can: gathering rocks and taking them away, pulling thorns, shoveling in manure and other forms of fertilizer to enrich the soil. There is no recipe or formula that dictates how one engages in soil enrichment on the campus of a Christian university. One simply engages in two fundamental tasks: soil analysis and enrichment-efforts based on that analysis.

The inhospitable soils come in different shapes and sizes on the campus of a Christian university. We can see thorns with specific names such as "always being too busy," "apathy," "wearing masks," and "fear" (and these four types of thorns are usually all tangled up with each other). My job as the manure shoveler is to lead worship, participate in projects and engage in personal conversations which name the thorns, begin to pull them up by their roots, and expand the areas of fertile soil.

Redeemer's mid-week chapel service forms the ongoing anchor for soil enrichment. As a community, we praise, pray, confess our sins (thorn removal?), open the Word and encourage each other to grow as in fertile soil. We are also building on Redeemer's lifelong history of valuing prayer, encouraging members of the campus community to become more bold in praying with one another.

My wife and I have at three different points in our marriage bought a home and put in a vegetable garden where there had not been one before. Each time I learned that it took 3-5 years to work over the garden so that the soil was loose, rich, and able to sustain a fruitful garden. Cultivating the soil of a university campus is both similar and different: it's similar in that it is a process of gradual, patient work that deepens the soil step-by-step; it's different in that every year there is significant turnover in the composition of the community, so that to a certain extent one begins with a new garden to prepare every year.

I must confess that I love my new calling of shoveling manure on God's garden. Paul writes, "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow...we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field" (I Cor. 3: 6, 9). I love my calling because it's not my job to make things grow; it's my job – along with many others here – to tend God's garden as He brings about the growth. Thanks to the faculty, staff and students with whom I interact, God's growing work is clearly evident every day. ■

Pro-Life Awareness Week Features Survivor

By Elizabeth O'Brien

From February 5 to 12, Redeemer University College held a series of activities—including a movie, speakers and panel discussions—in recognition of Pro-Life Awareness Week.

Throughout the week, Redeemer for Life, the on-campus pro-life students' association displayed a booth in the main lobby with printed information, photos and replicas of fetal developmental stages. Students also put up pro-life Fact & Awareness signs around campus. Robyn DeGroot, head of Redeemer for Life, hosted a panel discussion with four speakers from MacMaster University. The hour-long discussion explained the actual abortion method, important health and ethical concerns about abortion, and what it means to be considered a human person. Students learned that a fetus should be recognized as a human person from conception because any other point

in its development becomes something arbitrarily chosen.

The Pro-Life Awareness Week concluded with international speaker Rebecca Kiessling, from Michigan, who encouraged students to never let external circumstances such as money, looks, talent, parents or convenience determine the value of anyone's life. Adopted at birth, she described how, at age 18, she was devastated to learn that her biological father was a serial rapist. However, she refused to let the circumstances of her conception define and determine her life. After becoming a successful family attorney, she has been counsel in several internationally-recognized life-issue cases.

In her address, she explained, "My value and identity are not established as a 'product of rape,' but a child of God." Twice, her biological mother had planned to abort her, only to have those

plans fall through. In light of that, she asked if *she* deserved life more than the thousands of babies who are aborted each year, and challenged students to act on that. "I know that God intends for every unborn child to be given the same opportunity to be born, and I can't sit contentedly saying, 'Well, at least my life was spared,' or 'I deserved it!' ... Can you?"

Even in cases of rape, which some people deem a justifiable reason to abort, Kiessling encouraged people to recognize God's gift of life, and to appreciate how He can, through His grace, work all things out for good. Those who say that a woman who has been raped can't handle having a baby are underestimating the strength of women and don't see how raising the child can bring healing.

The full text of her empowering message can be found at www.rebeccakiessling.com ■



Jenny and a piece from her exhibit, *Little Dancer* (encaustic and photograph)

As part of their program requirements, senior art students will mount a display of their work in Redeemer's Art Gallery, located in the Auditorium Lobby on the second floor

Mixing Art and Ministry

of the academic building. This January, Jenny Vanderheyden, a fourth-year Art major from Strathroy, ON, exhibited a display entitled "Innocence."

Vanderheyden's says that these pieces speak of the wonderful innocence and playfulness of children. Her compassion and love for children has been nurtured through her involvement with Kids' Club, a Redeemer student volunteer group that works with young inner-city kids. Jenny also worked with this past summer and comments, "When these children would come to the church and simply play and giggle I was able to see their innocence shine through." In her

Artist's Statement she notes: "I wanted the children to fly as it were, to be lifted up from the confines of their experience as inner-city kids." Jenny's ambition is to become a teacher, and to minister to people through her art and teaching.

For more information on the art program at Redeemer, see the feature story on pages 10-13.

The article was written by Jeremy Burns, a second-year student from Ridgetown, ON, and was originally published in the February 16, 2007 issue of The Crown, Redeemer's student newspaper.

Psychology Students Tackle the Demands of Research



Some of students who recently completed the thesis requirement for their Honours Psychology degree program (from left to right): Kara-dee Morden, Angela Herzog, Jenny DeVries, Talitha Dykstra, Asher Driese, and Rachel Lammers

It is a challenging exercise designed to prepare students for the rigors of graduate school: in order to complete the requirements for the Honours Psychology degree, students are required to write, present and defend a thesis or an independent research project (IRP). Last semester nine students embarked on this academic journey, a project that, while rewarding, is also dreaded by many.

This is a largely self-directed undertaking, requiring students to be responsible for their own progress. Dr. Wayne Norman, Professor of Psychology and Director of Faculty Development, is the faculty advisor for the thesis/IRP.

Students research and select a topic within the area of psychology that is of interest to them. A thesis involves

critically evaluating empirical research on some topic, such as, comparing several therapeutic approaches in treating a psychological disorder. An IRP involves critically evaluating theories or models of a selected topic. Once the topic has been approved by Dr. Norman, the research begins in earnest. Writing a thesis/IRP can be a long and tedious process, involving multiple drafts and numerous rewrites. Dr. Norman discusses progress and problems with the students and comments on drafts of the work as they are written.

The defense at the end of the semester is the concluding event in the thesis/IRP process. This past semester, the students held a "dinner and defense" at Professor Brenda Stephenson's house. After the meal, students presented their work in front of their peers and the psychology faculty. After presenting their research, the faculty and other students were given the opportunity to ask questions. Many people found this to be the most stressful part of the entire process. However, the faculty went out of their way to make it as comfortable as possible.

At times, it can be a frustrating and overwhelming process. However, once completed, most students say that the feeling of pride and relief is well worth the effort. ■

Written by Karen Oosterhof from Athens, ON and Rachel Lammers, from Kitchener, ON, both of whom are fourth-year Honours Psychology majors. Rachel's thesis was titled "Multisystemic Therapy for Serious Juvenile Offenders" and Karen's thesis was titled "Self-efficacy and Career Decisions."

Going Once... Going Twice... Going to Mkar

On November 22, Redeemer's main foyer was packed for the annual Hobbies for Hilltop auction. This fundraiser is held every year for Redeemer's sister school, the University of Mkar in Nigeria (www.unimkar.edu.ng).

Redeemer students, staff and faculty donated a wide variety of prizes that were auctioned off. The items that drew the highest bids were: an Indian Dinner served by the Student Life staff which fetched \$210; a date with Student Senate's President, Craig Vanderveen and Vice-President, Jehan Watson

(\$190); and an "award-winning" dessert trifle (\$180). Other items included a formal 4-course dinner at Dorm 10, a date with Aaron Verhoef, a magic/illusionist show by Peter Frieswick and President Cooper's old office chair.

The excitement in the foyer grew intense as the prices climbed over the course of an hour and a half, and the final results reflected a very generous spirit. A total of \$3927 was raised by the auction, money that will go towards installing new computers at the African university. ■

Foraging for Food and Health

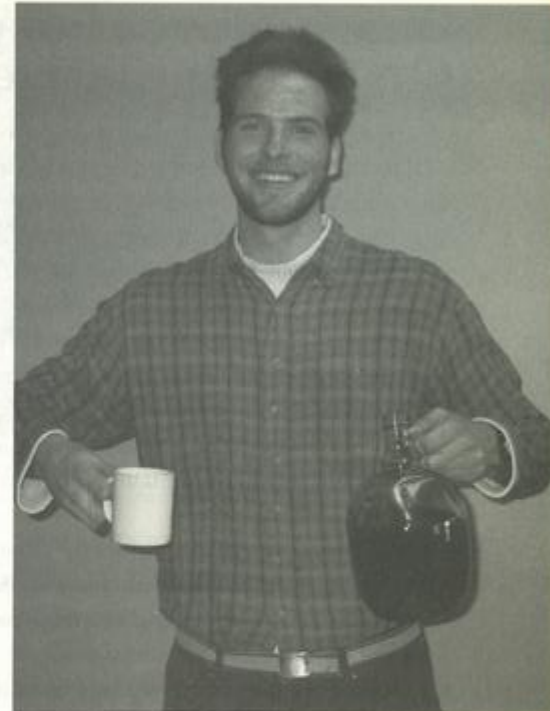
On February 2, 2007, Redeemer's resident hunter-gatherer, Dan Brinkman, a fourth-year student from Chatham, ON, gave a talk about the benefits of foraging. Beginning with a colorful PowerPoint presentation, he asked, "Why should we eat wild foods?" Dan explained that foraging is not only conducive to physical health but to spiritual health as well. One enjoys time away from a busy, stressful life by spending time in the wilderness, and when seeing creation, one can be led to think about the Creator—His Providence and creativity.

Dan pointed out that there is a lifetime of learning to be found in the art of foraging. In a world where dubious new health concoctions bring in huge revenues, he showed that wild foods, gathered from hunting, foraging,

and fishing can be found almost anywhere, even on-campus: the natural regeneration area, especially, is prime territory for foraging forays, particularly since Redeemer has stopped using pesticides and fertilizers.

Dan identified many plants that are considered trash but which are often very useful: hawthorn, which contains a compound that dilates arteries, making it good for the heart; elderberries, very high in cancer-preventing anti-oxidants; the common white pine very high in vitamin C; and paw-paw fruit, Canada's largest native berry. After the talk, Dan shared with the audience large jugs of a sumac-based beverage, spiced with natural herbs that he has found on his foraging trips. ■

Written by Veronica Sebanc, a fourth-year Philosophy major from Barry's Bay, ON.



Daniel Brinkman offered up some fresh "sumac-ade" at his recent foraging presentation

Synergy for Energy

Co-op student and alumnus work together on wind turbine project

When people ask Roman Golovchenko about his recent Co-Op placement at Rosa Flora Ltd., he can honestly say that he was blown away by the work that he did. A third-year Business student from North York, ON, Golovchenko worked with Arjan Vos '96 to do a Net Present Value (NPV) analysis on a 600-kilowatt wind turbine that was installed at the Dunnville, ON grower and importer of fresh-cut flowers.

Rosa Flora's 75-metre tall wind turbine generates electricity to power greenhouses and other operations. Vos, Controller at Rosa Flora, needed to know when the company could start to see a return on its investment. It turned into a fascinating, if somewhat complex project for Golovchenko, who worked closely with Vos and Ralph DeBoer, Operations Manager at Rosa Flora, to create the calculations necessary to make an informed decision.

Although this was not the only item that he worked on, Golovchenko says that "It was neat to be involved in such a project from start to finish. I think it really added to my experience." For more information on the wind turbine project, please visit www.rosafflora.com.

Redeemer offers Co-operative Education programs in Business, Computer Science and Environmental Studies. For students, it is an opportunity to get "real world" experience; for employers, these four or eight-month placements are a chance to develop special projects, provide additional staffing, or whatever human resource needs your firm has.

Business Co-Op placements begin in January and May. Placements for Computer Science and Environmental Studies also begin in May. If you are interested in finding out how a Redeemer student can benefit your organization, please contact Bill Brown, Supervisor of Co-operative Education by calling 905-648-1926, or through email: bbrown@redeemer.ca or Jennifer Zuidema, Co-op Administrator at 905-648-2131 x4228 or through e-mail: stlife@redeemer.ca

Board Moves Forward On New Initiatives

The Redeemer Alumni Association Board of Directors has an ambitious agenda for the year as it seeks to support and encourage alumni, students, the institution as a whole, and the community at large. The Board is pleased at the progress that it is making on a number of these projects, many of which are new initiatives.

Some highlights of the Board's activities thus far include:

- Increasing the perception of alumni as an active and essential constituency of the Redeemer community by ensuring the recognition of their accomplishments and contributions;
- Developing a better orientation program for new Board members;
- Organizing on-campus activities for alumni who live close to Hamilton and for those alumni who share a common distinctiveness (like the English and Business evenings described below);
- Providing a better structure for communicating with alumni, such as the redesigned website;
- Supporting students by offering a series of alumni-sponsored events, such as the Graduate School Seminar;
- Reviewing all aspects of alumni giving to Redeemer and developing a comprehensive approach that will give alumni a number of options and opportunities to support Redeemer.

The Board is always looking for feedback on its activities and direction. If you have comments, suggestions or observations, please share them – we are here to serve alumni.



The 2006-07 Alumni Board (l-r) Back row: Kevin Huinink, Board President; Stephen Witteveen, Vice-President; Heather Sinnema, Representative to the Senate; Tim Wolfert, Director of Alumni Affairs; Scott Zylstra. Front row: Sharon Vandermeulen; Jehan Watson, Student Senate Representative; Monica Mudde, Secretary. Absent: Arjan Vos, Representative to the Board of Governors, JD Alkema and Alma Pittaway.

You can forward your comments to the Board President at alumniboard@redeemer.ca, or the Alumni Office at alumnioffice@redeemer.ca. We are also accepting nominations for new Board members; consider serving the Redeemer community in this way. For more information on the Board's work and goals, please visit: www.redeemer.ca/alumni/governance.php. ■

Alumni Events Welcome English, Business Graduates

On **Thursday, March 15**, the Alumni Office and the English Department are co-hosting two events:

At 4:30pm, there will be a discussion on the topic "What kind of job can I get with an English degree?" Part of this event will be a panel of Redeemer English grads who are working in a field that is related to their degree. Room 210.

The second event, which will start at 7:00pm, is a social for graduates of the English program, featuring a reading by John Terpstra. All alumni and other friends of Redeemer are also invited to hear John read from his latest collection of award-winning poetry and non-fiction. Room 214.

On **Tuesday, March 27**, the Business Department and the Alumni Office will welcome back to campus Josh Thiessen '04, Account Manager for the Development Bank of Canada,

who will give a presentation on "Writing a Successful Business Plan." All Business majors are invited to this event, which will also include a time for networking with faculty and current students. 7:00 pm in Room 213.

Homecoming – Celebrating 25 years

This year's Homecoming is being planned in conjunction with Redeemer's 25th Anniversary celebration on **Saturday, September 29** (see p. 5).

The June issue of *Images* will have a more complete description of the activities that are being planned, but all alumni are encouraged to keep that day aside as we not only honour the Pioneer Class, but celebrate the accomplishments of all alumni. ■

FAQ

Graduate School

By Elizabeth O'Brien

As part of a discussion hosted by the Alumni Office and the Student Life Department this January, Redeemer students were given the opportunity to learn about graduate studies from Redeemer staff, faculty, and alumni.

John Kreuger, Career and Placement Coordinator, began by challenging students to question their motives for attending graduate school. Were they ready for an academic challenge in an environment that is often secular and intensely competitive? Did they have the motivation and passion to pursue their field more deeply? The panelists agreed that students should *not* go to graduate school only to get that piece of paper but rather because they love it and want to dig deeper. Kreuger explained that once you have decided to apply, you must do a lot of spade-work first, contacting the school and persistently making connections within your target program.

Alumni panelist Brian Harskamp (Business '05), who is pursuing an MBA at McMaster University, stated that a Redeemer education offers invaluable moral formation for businessmen, allowing them to stand back from the money-driven competition of the secular world. He felt well-prepared by Redeemer for graduate school but advised students to choose their undergraduate courses very carefully so that they don't have any "weak spots" in graduate school. Heidi Renkema (Biology '05), who is in a Masters of Science program at the University of Guelph, found that the liberal arts education at Redeemer gave her a valuable broad learning base but could be a drawback for people who want to enter highly specialized fields. She also advised students to prepare for graduate school early and, if possible, to gather some extra work experience



(l-r): Brian Harskamp, Heidi Renkema, Richard Greydanus and Dr. David Koyzis shed light on the sometimes mysterious world of graduate school at a panel for Redeemer students.

with professors during the summer. Richard Greydanus (History '05), has completed a Masters degree at McMaster and is working on a M.Phil at the Institute for Christian Studies; he spoke about enjoying the independence of graduate school work and how his faith-background is an incredible asset in the post-modern atmosphere.

Finally, Dr. David Koyzis, Professor of Political Science, described some of his own experiences in applying for graduate school. He then advised students to work hard and get to know their present professors at Redeemer. For the sake of Redeemer's academic reputation, teachers have to be honest in their recommendation letters, so the better they know the student, the more helpful for writing about them. He concluded by affirming that Redeemer graduate students have all played an important role in forging valuable connections with other schools and building Redeemer's reputation as a distinguished academic institution. ■

Alumni Volleyball Tournament

The Athletic Department and the Alumni Association will be hosting the 7th Annual Redeemer Alumni Co-ed Volleyball Tournament on Saturday, March 31. Alumni wishing to participate should contact the Athletic Office by March 23. The entrance fee is \$100/team.

The tournament format will be determined after the entry deadline. A maximum of eight teams will be eligible (2 pools of 4 teams with top 2 teams in each pool advancing to semis

and then winners advancing to finals). The Food Court will be open from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and babysitting may be available for \$10/family for the day. Requests for babysitters need to be made by March 23.

For more information, including rules on who can play, please contact the Athletics Department (athletics@redeemer.ca or 905.648.2139, Ext. 4267). ■

"A Slow Boring of Hard Boards"

Redeemer alumni work to bring about change in Cuba

For many Canadians, Cuba is a warm and wonderful vacation destination. But beyond the beaches and resorts is a government which often violates basic human rights. Two Redeemer graduates are working on both the local and national level to bring about meaningful change in the flawed socialist experiment of Cuba.

Brian Dijkema '04 and Ian DeWaard '00 recently appeared before the Canadian Parliament's Subcommittee on International Human Rights of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development to give testimony on the human rights situation in Cuba. Specifically, DeWaard and Dijkema, who work for the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC), were raising the plight of political prisoners in Cuba, including nine members of an independent trade union movement who have been held since 2003.

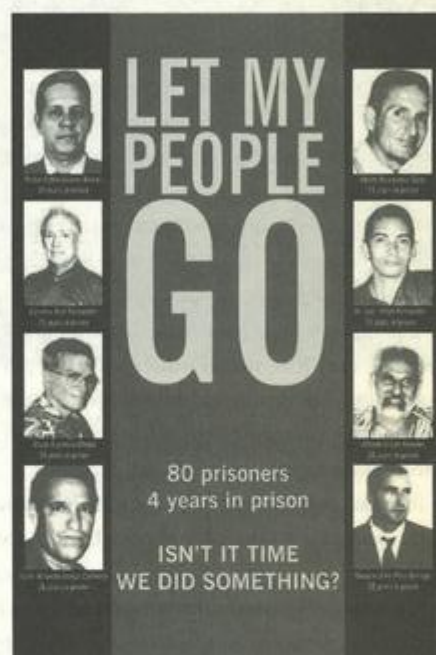
Political activism comes naturally to Dijkema. As a Political Science major at Redeemer, he was active in setting up a Solidarity Local at Redeemer, a CLAC-sponsored initiative to organize grassroots supports for a Christian

approach to labour and economic issues, including the situation of workers in Cuba. Part of his role at CLAC, where he works part-time after completing a Masters of Worldview Studies at the Institute for Christian Studies (ICS) in Toronto, is to organize other solidarity locals across Ontario.

This was CLAC's second appearance at the committee on this issue, and on November 6, 2006, just prior to this latest visit, Dijkema wrote an opinion piece in *The National Post* in which he outlined the plight of prisoners of conscience in Cuba.

Dijkema and DeWaard's goal is lofty: they hope that the committee would "recommend to the House and the prime minister that we re-examine, and hopefully change, Canada's policy towards Cuba." But they are also realistic: "Affecting change is a long-term process," notes Dijkema. "Dr. Jonathan Chaplin, my adviser at the ICS, calls it 'a slow boring of hard boards'. But as Christians, justice is something that we are called to pursue."

In the case of Cuba, Dijkema doesn't recommend that travelers abandon Cuba as a destination. But he notes, "Don't



Part of CLAC's strategy is to encourage Canadians to send a post card to Prime Minister Harper urging him raise the issue with Cuban authorities.

forget about what is happening beyond the beach; write letters, do research, get involved in being an agent of change – and don't forget to bring an extra tube of toothpaste to share!" ■

Personal Touch

Kevin Huinink '95 and Karin Terpstra are pleased to announce the birth of their second child Noel, born on December 28, 2006. Noel is a younger brother for Ephraim. Email: kevin_huinink@yahoo.com.

Gerald '01 and Cheryl Lapp DeGraaf '01 are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, Helena Faith, born on July 13, 2006.

Helena is a healthy little sister for big brother Samuel. Email: pocketlapp@hotmail.com.

Emily Houweling Price '02 was married on October 7, 2006 to James Price (Calvin '01). Address: 515 Columbia Drive SE #4, Albuquerque, NM, 87106-3663. Phone: 505.265.5816. Email: emarieke@hotmail.com.

Eric '88 and Brenda Brouwer were blessed with the birth of Evan Thomas Henry on September 28, 2006. Evan was welcomed by sisters Carraugh (6) and Gillian (4) and

brother Nicolas (2). Eric and Brenda live in Ottawa where Eric is a research scientist with Abbott Laboratories and Brenda is a public health nurse with the city of Ottawa. Email: eb.brouwer@sympatico.ca.

John Maich '93 and Kimberly Davidson Maich '93 are back in town. John, Kimberly and their three children, Robert (14), Grace (12) and Hannah (10) have recently purchased a home in Brantford after extended jaunts on either coast. John is currently minister at Oneida

Cowgirl Up!

The saying used to go, "How can you keep them down on the farm after they've seen the city?" But for Hamilton-raised Vanessa Guldmond '02, her Psychology and Sociology majors were just the ticket to leave the city and head for the big open skies of the Prairies.

After graduating from Redeemer, I worked for Children's Services in Fort Frances, ON, for a couple of years, but I was always looking for an opportunity to head out west. In 2004, I applied for a similar position in Alberta; during the interview, the prospective employer asked me why I wanted to move to Alberta. I replied without hesitation: "Because I want to be a cowgirl." They laughed, but I think that's why I got hired.

Soon after getting settled in Brooks, AB, my rancher friends trained me in roping and wrestling calves and working cattle. On my days off I began helping neighbouring farmers, and from there it didn't take long to make the decision to quit social work altogether. I figured I was young and free – would I rather be doing something so "boring" as work in an office, or work on horseback? Hmmm....

Besides, how can you live your dreams if you don't chase after them? That's why I switched to being a farmhand. Ever since I was little, I had dreamed of living in the prairies under those big blue skies – and now I'm there. People ask me all the time if I'll go back, but why would I? I'm having way too much fun! Currently, I work on a feedlot, which means I ride a horse and check 6 000 head of assorted beef cattle a day, plus various farmyard duties. I drive a pickup truck, go fishing, ice-fishing and deer-hunting (and yes, I do have my hunting and gun



One of the highlights of Vanessa's work is the spring branding season. She works with other farmhands and ranchers to vaccinate, tag and brand over 500 calves a day. She notes that this was one of the few days that she was caught without her cowboy hat.

licenses). You could say I'm a redneck, but I prefer the term *cowgirl*. I wouldn't trade it for the world.

Plans for the future? Why, I'm waiting for a cowboy to ride off into the sunset with, of course! ■

United Church and pastoral care coordinator at St. John's United Church. Kimberly is coordinating the Niagara area of the ASD School Support Program at McMaster Children's Hospital and teaching part-time at Brock University while she finishes her Ph.D. Email: revmaich@yahoo.ca or kmaich@yahoo.ca.

Wayne '03 and **Sarah DeVries Sutherland '02**, were married on May 31, 2003, in Palmerston, ON, and are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Emily Cecilia, who was born on December 2, 2006. Wayne is a personal trainer in Ancaster and Sarah works as an accountant in Mississauga. Email: wayneasarah@yahoo.ca.

Ian Cubitt '04 has recently been admitted to membership in the Institute of Chartered Accountants. He is the Treasurer of the Board of Directors of Homestead Christian Care in Hamilton and has been asked to be the Treasurer of the Missions Committee at Knox Presbyterian Church in Toronto. His wife **Rosine VanderKooy Cubitt '02** is enjoying her studies at Ontario College of Art & Design.

Steve and **Sarah Kapteyn Moerman '99** are thankful to God for the safe and healthy arrival of their twins, Zachary John and Janelle Margaret Eileen, born September 27, 2006. Big brothers Jaden and Christopher love to hug and kiss their new siblings. Sarah is a

stay-at-home-mom and Steven has taken some parental leave from his job as a paramedic to help out for a few months. Address: 16 Ebury Place, London, ON N6C 4V4. Phone: 519.686.3959. Email: moermansix@primus.ca.

Brian Walsh and **Sylvia Keesmaat '86** have moved, along with their two children, Madeleine and Lydia, to an organic solar-powered farm near Lindsay where they will be involved with providing environmental education at various levels. This past summer they held their first conference on sustainable living, called "Practicing Resurrection."

Continued on Page 26...

Personal Touch Continued

Sylvia still teaches one course a year at the Institute for Christian Studies in Toronto. The move occurred shortly after the publication of *Colossians Remixed: Subverting the Empire*, a book co-authored by Brian and Sylvia. Address: 459 Country Lane, R.R.#2, Cameron, ON K0M 1G0. Email: skeesmaat@icscanada.edu.

Derek Miedema '95 is now working with Evangelical Fellowship of Canada in Ottawa as a researcher into a range of social and public policy issues. After five years as a pastor in the CRC, he took a year off to live in Guelph and find out what to do next. It was there that his love for political science coalesced with his love for ministry and gave him a picture of his dream job which would combine the two. He also serves as an Associate Pastor at Calvin CRC in Ottawa through his work at the EFC. Email: dmiedema@rogers.com.

Vincent and **Ruth Comanda Skwarek '95** praise God for the birth of their third daughter Annika Joy, who was born on March 11, 2006. She is a little sister to Marika (3) and Hannah (2). The family has recently relocated due to Vincent's job change with the U.S. Coast Guard. Address: 3150 Galaxy Way, Laurel MD, 20724. Phone: 301.604.6366. Email: uscgrower@earthlink.net.

Andrew and **Amy Maas Tenyenhuus '01**, are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Allie Coreen, who was born on October 3. Amy has recently obtained her Certified Human Resources Professional designation from the Human Resources Professionals Association of Ontario.

Paul Ridder and **Lorraine Dykstra '03** were married on October 14, 2006 in Vanastra, ON. Lorraine is currently working as a medical receptionist in Clinton, ON. Address: 78524 Whys Line, RR#2 Bayfield, ON N0M 1G0.

Nathan '01 and Winona Strikwerda Siebenga '99 are thankful for the safe arrival of their third child, Matthew Arend. He was born on October 16, 2006, tipping the scales at 10 lbs and 8 oz. Matthew is a little brother to Leah and Chelsea. Email: winona_strikwerda@hotmail.com.

Jonathan '01 and Leanne Maas Fernhout '02 are pleased to announce the arrival of their first child, a son, Hayden Klaas, who was born on January 29, 2006. Jonathan recently completed his B.Ed. and is now teaching at Mississauga Christian Academy. Leanne is Activities Coordinator at Holland Christian Homes in Brampton.

Elisa Cook '97 married Gary Rink on May 20, 2006 in Milton, ON. They are currently living in Oakville where Elisa works as a social worker in the oncology program at Credit Valley Hospital and Gary works as an electronic technician for Environment Canada. Address: 2472 Stefi Trail, Oakville, ON L6H 5Y4. Email: gary.elisa@gmail.com.

Kevin '03 and Amy Hordyk Hoogstad '03 were blessed on July 15, 2006, with the arrival of three children, Micah Levi, Rachel Yvonne and Josiah Asher (who was stillborn). Micah and Rachel are doing well at home in Hamilton, although Micah struggles with health difficulties. Micah is set to have heart surgery in early 2007. Please visit their blog www.kahoogstad.blogspot.com to read about their journey from the beginning. Email: kahoogstad@hotmail.com.

Nancy Smail Coutu '93 is the mother of two children, Madeline (5) and Griffin (20 months). Nancy teaches special education with the Algoma District School Board. She specializes in working with children who have been identified with learning disabilities, Autism and behavioural identifications. Nancy and her husband Dan recently celebrated their 10-year anniversary. Dan works with the city of Sault Sainte Marie as a firefighter. Address: 95 Fairmount Drive, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6B 5Y1. Phone: 705.942.0527. Email: ncoutu@shaw.ca.

Tim '96 and Janet Vreugdenhil Van Hemert '95 are pleased announce the safe arrival of their third son, Casey Luke, born on July 8, 2006. Casey is a younger brother for Ryan and Micah. Tim is currently teaching grade five at Langley Christian School and Janet is currently on maternity leave from teaching. Address: 21541 - 49B Avenue, Langley, BC V3A 8P6. Email: vanhermerts@shaw.ca.

Matt '01 and Julie Stapper Heinbuch '01 are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Nathaniel Bruce, born on May 2, 2006. He weighed 7 lbs, 4.8 oz. Email: jheinbuch@hotmail.com.

Sara Plantinga '06 is teaching grade five at Immanuel Christian School in Winnipeg, MB. God bless all Redeemerites!

Chad and **Amanda Paterson Pasma '02** are proud to announce the safe arrival of Nina Carleen, born on October 12, 2006, baby sister to Alexis Daniella and Dominique Justine. Best wishes can be sent to carlycarly@excite.com.

Patricia Wynja '97 married David Smith on December 18, 2004, at Exeter Bethel Reformed Church. They welcomed their first child Nathanael Adam on October 16, 2005. A brother for Tyler, Lanie and Jenna. Address: Box 544, Brussels, ON N0G 1H0. Phone: 519.887.8118.

Pete and **Sonja Deelstra VanderHeide '93** are thankful for the blessing of another daughter, Lucy Hope, born February 22, 2006, a sister for Jake, Claire and Mia. Pete keeps busy working on the OPP at the Lambton Detachment and Sonja is enjoying being home with the kids. Email: psvanderheide@sympatico.ca. ■

We encourage all alumni to share with one another what is going in their lives. Whether it is a birth, wedding, job change or other significant event, send in your announcement to:

Images
Redeemer University College
777 Garner Road East
Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4

You can also submit an announcement electronically through the Alumni web-site: www.redeemer.ca/alumni/submit-a-note.php, or by sending an email with the details to: alumnioffice@redeemer.ca.



Whether they are in elementary school or university, students still get excited about a snow day. After a mild start to the winter, Redeemer has cancelled classes twice during the Winter Term. The ice storm that shut down the university in January left the campus shimmering in the late afternoon sun.



The Choirs of REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Buxtehude's Abendmusik

Dr. Christiaan Teeuwsen, Conductor/Organist

Soloists:

Janet Obermeyer, Agnes Zsigovics, Sopranos

Daniel Cabena, Counter-tenor

Brandon Leis, Tenor

Daniel Lichti, Bass

Friday, April 13, 8:00 PM

Tickets \$20, \$17 (student/senior) **TICKETWINDOW**
Get your seat.

MacNab Presbyterian Church,
116 MacNab Street South, Hamilton



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au